JACK BAILEY Legislative District 29 Calvert and St. Mary's Counties

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee



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Senate Bill 241 – Maryland Healthy Working Families Act – Applicability

Dear Chairwoman Kelley and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to introduce Senate Bill 241 - Maryland Healthy Working Families Act — Applicability. This bill would exempt our local school systems from the requirement to provide sick leave to substitute employees.

Senate Bill 241 gives three specific conditions for this exemption. The employee must be called to work by a county board of education on an as-needed basis, must be able to reject or accept the shift offered by the county board of education, and must not be guaranteed to be called on to work by the county board of education.

When the General Assembly passed this law, it included an exemption for employees who work on an as-needed basis in the health and human services industry. This bill creates a similar exemption for substitute employees. Extending this exemption will save our local school systems money. For some school systems, the savings could be substantial. As stated in the fiscal note for this bill, the Montgomery County Public School System and the Baltimore County Public School System each estimate savings of at least \$1.1 million per year. At this time when all of us are focused on the amount of money that our local school systems receive, I believe that this funding would be better spent on other educational needs.

I respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 241. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Senator Jack Bailey

District 29

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